

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00399 111316Z
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 H-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 /029 W

-----111318Z 004418 /53

R 111153Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2921
INFO AMCONSUL HALIFAX
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 0399

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, UR, US (PEREIRA, NORMAN)
SUBJECT: W/W: DETENTION OF AMERICAN CITIZEN

1. U.S. CITIZEN NORMAN PERIERA, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, DALHOUSIA UNIVERSITY, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, WAS DETAINED BY SOVIET MILITIA FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AND FORTY MINUTES ON JAN 9 IN CLOSED TOWN OF KHIMKI. PEREIRA, A FLUENT RUSSIAN SPEAKER AND PAST IREX EXCHANGE, IS IN USSR TEMPORARILY TO HELP MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A GROUP OF CANADIAN STUDENTS AT PUSHKIN INSTITUTE. HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO DINNER AT FRIEND'S HOUSE IN KHIMKI, WHICH HE DID NOT KNOW WAS CLOSED AREA AND WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN 40 KM RADIS OF MOSCOW, WHEN HIS TAXI WAS STOPPED BY MILITIA WHO WERE REPORTEDLY LOOKING FOR TAXI DRIVER WHO HAD BEEN HIT AND RUN ACCIDENT. MILITIA MAN ASKED HIM TO COME TO STATION TO TESTIFY THAT HIS DRIVER HAD NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN ACCIDENT. WHEN PEREIRA SAID THAT HE WAS U.S. CITIZEN, MILITIA MAN TOLD HIM HE WAS IN CLOSED AREA AND REQUIRED HIM TO COME TO STATION.

2. PEREIRA WAS INTERROGATED ABOUT WHERE HE WAS GOING, BUT REFUSED TO GIVE NAME OR ADDRESS OF HIS SOVIET FRIEND. HE WAS ALSO ASKED TO SIGN QUOTE AKT UNQUOTE ADMITTING VIOLATION OF TRAVEL REGULATIONS, BUT REFUSED. HE MADE THREE REQUESTS TO SPEAK TO U.S. EMBASSY AND WAS REFUSED EACH TIME. HE WAS FINALLY DRIVEN TO MOSCOW METRO STOP
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AND LEFT THERE.

3. PEREIRA TOLD CONSOFF THAT ALTHOUGH HE WANTED EMBASSY TO KNOW ABOUT INCIDENT, HE WOULD PREFER THAT MATTER NOT BE BROUGHT UP WITH MFA. HE WOULD PREFER TO PUT MATTER BEHIND HIM AND CONCENTRATE ON GETTING HIS STUDENTS PROPERLY SETTLED BEFORE HE MUST RETURN TO CANADA TO TEACH CLASSES. IN VIEW BRIEF PERIOD OF DETENTION AND FACT

THAT PEREIRA WAS IN CLOSED AREA, EMBASSY ALSO THINKS IT PREFERABLE
TO LET THIS INCIDENT PASS WITHOUT NOTE TO MFA. WE HAVE ADVISED
PEREIRA TO CONTACT US IF OVERT SURVEILLANCE OR HARASSMENT OCCURS,
SINCE THIS MIGHT INDICATE SOVIETS DO NOT INTEND TO LET MATTER
DROP.
TOON

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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